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Vol. 5, No. 3

# The Advisor

May/June 2007

A York County Newsletter for Professional Horticulturists  
And Workers in the Green Industry

## 2007 Calendar of Events

- May 1      **Landscaper's BMPs: Walk and Talk, Bennett's Creek Nursery.** Call VCE office for reservation, time, and directions.
- May 5      **York County Master Gardener's Annual Plant Sale**, 9am-12pm, 301 Goodwin Neck Road, Yorktown, VA.
- May 5-8     **All Things Organic Conference and Trade Show**, Chicago, IL. [www.organicexpo.com/07/](http://www.organicexpo.com/07/)
- May 8-10    **National Hardware Show & Lawn and Garden World**, Orlando, FL. [www.nationalhardwareshow.com](http://www.nationalhardwareshow.com)
- May 16-17   **Hazard Trees Workshop/Tree Planting & Establishment Workshop**, Indianapolis, IN. The National Arbor Day Foundation. Approved for ISA and SAF CEU/CFU credits. [www.arboday.org/shopping/conferences/brochures/ht\\_tpe/2007/](http://www.arboday.org/shopping/conferences/brochures/ht_tpe/2007/)
- May 22-26   **RHS Chelsea Flower Show**, Royal Hospital, Chelsea, London SW3. [www.rhs.org.uk/chelsea/2007/index.asp](http://www.rhs.org.uk/chelsea/2007/index.asp)
- Jun 3-7      **9<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Parasitic Plants**, Charlottesville, VA. [www.cpe.vt.edu/wcopp/index.html](http://www.cpe.vt.edu/wcopp/index.html)
- Jun 12-14    **National Lawn and Garden Show**, Reno, NV. [www.nlgshow.com](http://www.nlgshow.com)
- Jun 20-23    **2007 South East Greenhouse Conference**, Greenville, SC. [www.gardencentersofamerica.org/cde.cfm?event=141156](http://www.gardencentersofamerica.org/cde.cfm?event=141156)
- Jun 20-24    **2007 ANLA Retail Road Show**, Settle, WA. [www.anla.org/applications/Documents/Docs/Roadshow\\_Web.pdf](http://www.anla.org/applications/Documents/Docs/Roadshow_Web.pdf)
- Jun 24-29    **International Society of Horticultural Science Conference on Turfgrass Science and Management for Sports Fields**, Beijing, China. [www.bfuturf.com](http://www.bfuturf.com) e-mail: [yinsx369@bjfu.edu.cn](mailto:yinsx369@bjfu.edu.cn) or [ictsm2007@163.com](mailto:ictsm2007@163.com)
- Jul 14-17    **OFA Short Course**, Columbus, OH. [www.ofa.org/pdf/sc2007/07program.pdf](http://www.ofa.org/pdf/sc2007/07program.pdf)
- Jul 16-18    **Virginia Society of Landscape Designers Summer Tour**, Norfolk & Virginia Beach. [droselius@aol.com](mailto:droselius@aol.com) [www.vslid.org](http://www.vslid.org)
- Jul 16-19    **American Society for Horticultural Science Annual Conference**, Scottsdale, AZ. [www.ashs.org](http://www.ashs.org)
- Aug 11-17   **Pondapalooza, National Pond & Expo Conference**, Savannah, GA. [www.pondkeeper.com](http://www.pondkeeper.com)
- Jul 24-26    **PANTS**, Atlantic City, NJ. [www.pantshow.com](http://www.pantshow.com)
- Jun 7        **Tidewater AREC Thrips, Diseases, and Agronomics Field Day**, Suffolk, VA.  
<http://arecs.vaes.vt.edu/arec.cfm?webname=tidewater&section=projects>
- Aug 3-9      **8<sup>th</sup> International Plant Cold Hardiness Seminar**, Saskatchewan, Canada. [www.8ipchs.usask.ca/program.php](http://www.8ipchs.usask.ca/program.php)
- Aug 5-12     **2007 Perennial Plant Symposium – 25th Anniversary**, Columbus, OH. [www.perennialplant.org/newsdetail.asp?ID=119](http://www.perennialplant.org/newsdetail.asp?ID=119)
- Aug 9-11     **SNA (Southern Nursery Association) Forum 2007**, Atlanta, GA. [www.sna.org/tradeshow/index.shtml](http://www.sna.org/tradeshow/index.shtml)
- Aug 23-25    **Farwest Show**, Oregon Convention Center, Portland, OR. [www.farwestshow.com](http://www.farwestshow.com)
- Sep 5-8      **5th International Conference: Propagation of Ornamental Plants**, Sofia, Bulgaria. <http://conference2007.journal-pop.org/index.php>
- Sep 6-7      **10th Biennial Southern Plant Conference**, Mobile, AL. [www.sna.org/conferences/SPC2007/spc.shtml](http://www.sna.org/conferences/SPC2007/spc.shtml)
- Sep 20-22    **Fashion In Bloom**. [www.fashioninbloom.com](http://www.fashioninbloom.com)

[www.ext.vt.edu](http://www.ext.vt.edu)

Extension is a joint program of Virginia Tech, Virginia State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and state and local governments.

Virginia Cooperative Extension programs and employment are open to all, regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

**DOLLARS & SENSE****GREEN INDUSTRY EMERGENCY PLAN**

The Green Industry Emergency Plan web site was created to assist you in planning for business continuity through disasters. It was developed by the Alabama Cooperative

Extension System, funded by a grant from the Southern Region Risk Management Education Center and supported by the Southern Nursery Association. You will find here a collection of resources that will help you prepare a personalized emergency management plan to minimize production downtime and financial losses and ensure the resumption of operations after a disaster. Such resources include the Open for Business<sup>sm</sup> Toolkit from the Institute for Business & Home Safety and the U.S. Small Business Administration. You will also find quick links to federal and state resources [unfortunately, Virginia is not one of the states listed] as well as a place to chat with your colleagues throughout the region.



You can develop your plan on-line and even store it on-line so your records are readily accessible, or print it out for easy reference. Storing the plan on-line gives you a secure safety net. Your business's resources—from chemical storage

information, customer, creditor and vendor contact information to insurance policy numbers and agent contacts and vital records—will be safely stored and retrievable following a disaster. Updates to your plan are easy—just follow the links. The site is secure and you must create an account before you can begin to build your on-line plan. This emergency plan is intended as a guide and should not be the sole source of one's emergency planning.



<http://www.greenindustryemergencyplan.com/cms/?q=>

**INTERNET PRESENCE?**

Do you have online presence? Is this presence limited to your own web site? How do people locate it? Search engines probably -- along with thousands of others? So, how do you get found? Consider being listed in the online Lawn & Garden Yellow Pages ([LGYP.com](http://www.lgyp.com)) where you can search by ZIP code and categories. Top categories are Landscape Contractors, Garden Centers, Landscape Architects, Plants, Perennials, and Trees. More categories – Arborists, Lawn Care Services, Landscape Maintenance and more. Some of the latest additions are Garden Centers of America Proven Winners Certified Garden Centers/Nurseries, Proven Winners Annuals and Project Green Contractors.

You may also want to consider having Virtual Plant Tags ([www.virtualplanttags.com](http://www.virtualplanttags.com)) linked to your listings. Proven Winners will have all 160 of their plants featured with links with LGYP.com listings.

**AGRICULTURE INSPECTION AND USER FEES**

Prices for items from Canada may increase. On Mar 1<sup>st</sup> the remaining provisions of USDA's APHIS interim rule that removed the inspection exemption for Canadian-grown fruits and vegetables imported from Canada became effective. The interim rule also removes the exemption from user fees for all commercial vessels, trucks, railroad cars and aircraft, as well as international passengers entering the United States from Canada. This allows APHIS to recover their agricultural quarantine and inspection (AQI) costs through user fees and expand AQI activities along the U.S.-Canada border, thereby decreasing the risk of pests and diseases entering the U.S. from Canada.

[www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/hot\\_issues/agri-inspec&user\\_fees/agri-inspec&user\\_fees.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/hot_issues/agri-inspec&user_fees/agri-inspec&user_fees.shtml)

**WEATHER TOUGH PLANTS...**

According *Grower's Talk* editor, Chris Beytes\*, The Weather Channel is going to introduce "Weather Tough" plants this spring at Home Depot stores in the Midwest. Future lines would be developed for other regions with different temperature and weather conditions. Their idea is to feature "Plants chosen to stand up to the toughest weather conditions in your area." This would be an expanded use of The Weather Channel name and advertising power. \*Acres Online from GrowerTalks - April 5, 2007

**JUDGE HALTS GE ALFALFA SEED SALES**

A federal judge decided March 12 to vacate USDA's 2005 approval of genetically engineered (GE) Roundup Ready alfalfa and order an immediate halt to sales of the transgenic seed. The preliminary injunction ordered by U.S. Judge in the Northern District of California followed a ruling last month that USDA had approved RR alfalfa without a full environmental impact statement. In addition to barring seed sales, the injunction calls for a March 30 halt to planting of RR alfalfa seed. A hearing is scheduled for April 27 on the plaintiffs' request for a permanent injunction.

While this is being heralded as a ground breaking case as it is the first time that sale of a USDA (APHIS) deregulated GE seed has been halted, the court did not overturn federal conclusions regarding the safety of the crop for food and feed purposes, but rather concluded that USDA (APHIS) had not adequately documented potential environmental impacts. On Mar 23, APHIS moved RR alfalfa back to a regulated article, where it will remain until the agency issues a new determination consistent with court requirements.

APHIS safely regulated genetically engineered organisms since 1986 and has overseen the deregulation of more than 70 GE crop lines, including RR corn, canola and soybean, which have a long history of safe use.

*Federal Register*, Mar 23, 2007, Vol 72, Num 56, p. 1375-1376

[www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/content/2007/03/allalfarr.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/content/2007/03/allalfarr.shtml)

**E.Y.I****2008 ALL-AMERICAN ROSE SELECTIONS**

AARS selected only two outstanding new award-winning roses for 2008: **Dream Come True™** and **Mardi Gras**. The winners excelled during two years of rigorous testing against 15 criteria including ease of maintenance and disease resistance. The "AARS Winner" distinction ensures that the rose will perform the best for gardeners nationwide.



**Dream Come True™**, a grandiflora, has flowers of flawless form that open clear yellow and rapidly transform with blushing touches of ruby-red. Lush with clean green leaves, the big bushy plant grows loads of long-stemmed long-lived, large double and formal

blossoms with mild tea fragrance. Bred by retired physician, Dr. John Pottschmidt, Cincinnati, OH – the 3<sup>rd</sup> amateur hybridizer to win the AARS award in 67 years and introduced by Weeks Roses.



**Mardi Gras**, a floribunda, is upright, well branched and hedge like, with large clusters of yellow orange flowers that have with a moderate, peppery fragrance and that become increasingly pink at finish. With attractive green, glossy foliage to offset bright blooms, the upright, floriferous plant can be used as

a hedge rose. Hybridized by Keith Zary and introduced by Jackson and Perkins.

**LIGHT BROWN APPLE MOTH IN CALIFORNIA (LEFT-MALE, RIGHT FEMALE)**

USDA's APHIS confirmed the presence of light brown apple moth (LBAM), *Epiphyas postvittana*, in California on Mar 22<sup>nd</sup>. LBAM is

native to Australia and is found in New Zealand, Ireland, the United Kingdom and Hawaii. More than 250 plant species are known to be susceptible to attack. Major domestic hosts of concern are stone fruit (peaches, plums, nectarines and apricots), pip fruit (apples and pears), grapes, cherries and citrus. LBAM destroys, stunts or deforms young seedlings; spoils the appearance of ornamental plants; and injures deciduous fruit-tree crops, citrus and grapes. LBAM has the potential to cause significant economic losses. However, these impacts can be effectively mitigated through production-level management practices. Government officials are taking appropriate regulatory action to prevent the spread of LBAM.

[www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/content/2007/03/applemoth.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/content/2007/03/applemoth.shtml)

**EMERALD ASH BORER (EAB) UPDATE**

**Fungus Eyed as Potential Stopper.**

According to USDA Agricultural

Research Service, *Beauveria bassiana*, a soil borne fungus already used for keeping many insect pests in check, is being eyed as a possible control for the invasive EAB that has already killed more than 20 million ash trees in Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, and Ontario.

[www.ars.usda.gov/is/pr/2007/070413.htm](http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/pr/2007/070413.htm)

**Firewood Alert.** USDA took Emergency

Action Notice to have firewood bundles

from Taylor Wood Products removed/

recalled. The firewood bundles had not been properly

treated for the EAB and were being sold in Manerd's

stores. It is possible that firewood from Taylors, and other

businesses in Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan or Maryland,

maybe selling firewood which does not meet the requirements

of the federal quarantine at gas stations and other chain

stores, such as Home Depot and Lowe's.

[www.extension.iastate.edu/hamilton/news/Emerald+Ash+Borer+Alert.htm](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/hamilton/news/Emerald+Ash+Borer+Alert.htm)

[www.datcp.state.wi.us/press\\_release/result.jsp?prid=1962](http://www.datcp.state.wi.us/press_release/result.jsp?prid=1962)

**PORCELAIN-BERRY PORCELAIN BERRY OR AMUR PEPPERVINE**

*Ampelopsis brevipedunculata* is an invasive, non-native deciduous, woody, perennial vine that resembles native species in the genus *Vitis* (it is easily misidentified as wild grape—see link to tell the difference). Porcelain-

berry is a vigorous invader of open and partially shaded habitats that quickly spreads over other vegetation, shading them out. *A. brevipedunculata* can grow up to 15 feet in a single growing season, disperse numerous seeds that can remain viable in soil for several years, and suffers little disease or insect pressure.

As an attractive vine (its colorful berries, good ground coverage, trellis-climbing vines, pest-resistance, and tolerance of adverse conditions), this plant moves in ornamental horticulture trade and easily escapes cultivation. Massachusetts has banned its import or sale.

Invasive, common, and spreading in Virginia, do not assist in its spread – do not sell or use porcelain berry.

[www.nps.gov/plants/alien/fact/amb1.htm](http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien/fact/amb1.htm)

[www.pestalert.org/viewNewsAlert.cfm?naid=2](http://www.pestalert.org/viewNewsAlert.cfm?naid=2)

**ASIAN LONGHORN BEETLE**

On Mar 12<sup>th</sup> USDA APHIS confirmed an Asian longhorn beetle (ALB) infestation more than a year old in hardwood trees on Prall's Island, N.Y., an 80-acre, uninhabited island lying between Staten Island, N.Y., and northern New Jersey. The trees will be cut and chipped.

[www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/content/2007/03/albpisland.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/content/2007/03/albpisland.shtml)

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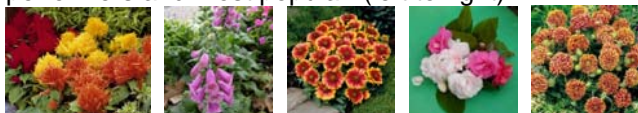
**JACKSON AND PERKINS® SOLD**

On April 10<sup>th</sup>, Harry & David Holdings, Inc. completed the sale of its Jackson and Perkins business, including the direct marketing and wholesale businesses, the Jackson & Perkins brand, catalog, e-commerce website and associated inventory, including premium rose plants, horticultural products and home and garden décor, as well as its direct marketing and wholesale customer lists and relationships, to an investment group led by Donald and Glenda Hackenberger. Hackenbergers own several businesses in the horticultural industry, including Southern Sun, a technology company involved in plant propagation, and a stake in Park Seed Co., which owns Wayside Gardens in Hodges, S.C.

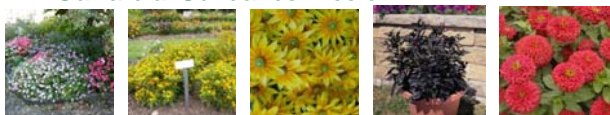
[www.bco.com/investor/press\\_releases.html](http://www.bco.com/investor/press_releases.html) news accounts.

**HRAREC'S TOP TEN FROM 2006 FLOWER TRIALS**

Hampton Roads Agricultural Research and Extension Center (HRAREC) selections from their 2006 trials – top performers and most popular. (left to right)



- Ψ 'Celosia Fresh Look Mix'
- Ψ Digitalis 'Camelot Series'
- Ψ Gaillardia 'Arizona Sun'
- Ψ Double Impatiens 'Silhouette Series'
- Ψ Gaillardia 'Sundance Bicolor'



- Ψ Impatiens 'Mini Firefly Series'
- Ψ Melampodium 'Golden Globe'
- Ψ Rudbeckia 'Prairie Sun'
- Ψ Ornamental Pepper 'Black Pearl'
- Ψ Zinnia 'Magellan Series'

[www.vaes.org.vt.edu/HRAREC/Trial%20Gardens/TopTen2006.htm](http://www.vaes.org.vt.edu/HRAREC/Trial%20Gardens/TopTen2006.htm)

**GARDEN GATE READER'S TOP ANNUALS PICKS**

For pictures and details, see May/June 2007 issue.

- Ψ Marigold *Tagetes* spp.
- Ψ Petunia *Petunia* hybrid
- Ψ Zinnia *Zinnia* hybrid
- Ψ Snapdragon *Antirrhinum* hybrid
- Ψ Spider flower *Cleome hassleriana*
- Ψ Nicotiana *Nicotiana* hybrid
- Ψ Impatiens *Impatiens walleriana*
- Ψ Cosmos *Cosmos* spp.
- Ψ Globe amaranth *Gomphrena* spp.
- Ψ Lantana *Lantana camara*
- Ψ Tall verbena *Verbena bonariensis*

**GOLFERS LONG-TERM HEALTH SAFE!**

Based on estimates made by Cornell University researchers Murphy and Haith<sup>1</sup>, of 15 turfgrass pesticides vapors at three golf courses in the northeast,

long-term health risks to golfers from inhalation of these 15 pesticides appear to be minimal in the Northeastern U.S. Estimated hazard quotients were found to be similar to those calculated from field measurements.

<sup>1</sup> Environ. Sci. Technol. 2007, 41, 1038-1043 <http://pubs.acs.org/cgi-bin/sample.cgi/esthag/2007/41/i03/pdf/es060964b.pdf>

**THE DIGITAL NURSERY WORKSHOP – INTERNET RESOURCES FOR INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT**

The Internet can be an unparalleled information resource OR an endless frustration and enormous waste of time while searching for the right tools for the job. To help green-industry personnel access and use the wealth of information available to meet the industry's diverse needs, researchers at Virginia Tech's HRAREC developed the **Digital Nursery Workshop**. This site has practical information on Internet surfing basics and using search engines. But what I found most useful, were the pages for Entomology ([Insect](#) identification and control), Weed Science ([Weed](#) identification and pesticide labels), and Plant Pathology ([Disease](#) diagnosis and control).

[www.vaes.org.vt.edu/HRAREC/workshop/workshop.htm](http://www.vaes.org.vt.edu/HRAREC/workshop/workshop.htm)

**EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES****BASIC SOIL SCIENCE – TWO DAY SHORT COURSE**

This intensive Virginia Tech taught two-day short course will be held May 15-16 in Charlottesville. The course focuses upon understanding soil physical, chemical and morphological properties in natural and managed landscapes. The course will stress relationships among basic soil properties, water quality and various land use issues. Additional information (location, fees, CEUs) and registration forms on the web at

[www.cses.vt.edu/revegetation/outreach.html](http://www.cses.vt.edu/revegetation/outreach.html).

**PESTICIDE APPLICATOR RECERTIFICATION COURSES**

2007 Calendar of Courses - Planned or Pending Approval for Recertification of Virginia Certified Commercial Pesticide Applicators is on the VDACS website [www.vdacs.virginia.gov/pesticides/pending.shtml](http://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/pesticides/pending.shtml).

Also make sure you read and understand [Applicator Regulatory Changes](#) and [Applicator Responsibilities](#).

Make sure you have the latest study materials as new exams started being used in January.

**LANDSCAPERS BMP'S CLASSES: MAY 1 & JUN 5**

These are for the Professional Landscape Industry -- Learn the current research based recommendations from Virginia Tech. Classes held first Tuesday of each month from 8am to 10am at the York County Public Library (Route 17 & Battle Rd), Yorktown. For class topics and reservations contact York (757-898-4940) or James City County (757-564-2170) Extension offices. Also at:

[www.yorkcounty.gov/vce/upcomingevents/upcomingeventpg.htm](http://www.yorkcounty.gov/vce/upcomingevents/upcomingeventpg.htm)